

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** September 7, 2006

**Inspector:** David Stowe

**Location:** Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane,  
345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Between 0.45-0.74" of precipitation was recorded over 8/2-8/3 depending on location and as reported by NOAA. Local totals may vary.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd by an existing trail path with a swing gate, and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station 9/7/06. -Most steep slopes have erosion in the stone dust.	- If necessary, additional measures for stability should be considered for access needs. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, they will need to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8/05-9/7/06.	-Not Applicable (N/A) until evaluation at the end of work.
<b>Composite</b>	- Active clearing was not noted past Archers Lane. Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-9/7/06.	-See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 9/7/06.	- Still needs attention.
	- Even with the recent repairs, erosion on the access road has caused stone to spill over the silt fence further down-gradient. 8/17-9/7/06.	-This is adjacent to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> wetland crossing and will have to be pulled back and repaired again. 8/17-9/7/06.	- Needs attention (even following recent repairs).
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	- Work areas are accessed from Hoyts Hill, Chestnut Ridge Rd, Webb Rd, Lime Kiln Rd,	-Continue to monitor the conditions of all access roads. If muddy conditions re-occur, place	- N/A at this time

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<b>Norwalk Section</b>	Whortleberry Rd, John Todd Way and Costa Lane. 3/29-9/7/06.	more wood chips or consider installing silt fence as needed. 9/7/06.	
	- Erosion continues along the access road near structure #31 but haybales seem to be containing sediment. 7/19-9/7/06. Reese is still storing equipment near structure #31. 9/7/06.	-Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-9/7/06.	-Look into more permanent solutions.
	- Controls at Bethel water building were in good shape. However, Webb Rd has received significant storm run-off from Nashville Rd ext. 7/12-9/7/06.	- Flow from Webb Rd during rain events is not project related but it is washing out the road with each storm 7/5-9/7/06.	- Evaluate road condition
	- Minor sediment tracking was noted in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north. 8/30-9/7/06.	- Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed 7/19-9/7/06.	-N/A at this time
	-Mats remain in good condition over the wetlands in this section. 9/7/06.	- None at this time. 9/7/06.	-N/A
	-Several wetlands are matted to the south of Kent Rd. Haybales are still in place at the wash out areas along the access road. 8/30-9/706.	- Continue to maintain erosion controls at the areas that continuously wash out. 7/12-9/7/06	-N/A
	-Vehicles have tracked through the restored area adjacent to the bike path between Broad Street and the Norwalk Substation. 9/7/06.	- Contractors should restore this area as part of the final restoration efforts. 9/7/06	- Needs attention
<b>Line Construction Composite</b>	- No active work was noted in the Archers Lane ROW section. 8/30-9/7/06.	- None at this time. 9/7/06.	-N/A

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	-Crews were applying seed and hay mulch to the disturbed areas along the ROW from pole #21 to pole #11 near Bethel Reservoir. 9/7/06.	- None at this time 9/7/06.	- N/A
Line Construction continued	- No active work was noted in the Chestnut Ridge, John Todd Way, or Costa Lane ROW sections this week.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-N/A
<b>Norwalk Section</b>	- Crews were pulling wire at #11048 this week. Otherwise, wire pulling is complete in this section. 9/7/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	- N/A
	-Crews were working on the wire at structure #11059 off Kent Road (south). 9/7/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-NA
	-With the exception of the old tower foundation near structure #11064, all old foundations have been removed from the ROW at Broad Street, Kent Road, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road. The concrete filled dumpsters have been removed in some areas. 9/7/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-NA
	- Active work was occurring on structure #11064 off North Seir Hill Road and #11074 off Perry Drive. 9/7/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-NA
	-Rider/guard poles were being removed at Broad Street. 9/7/06.	-Remove wire ASAP due to its location within the overflow channel and store properly. 9/7/06.	-NA
	-Pieces of wire have been left within the overflow		-Needs attention

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	channel at structure #11081. The wire will be removed when overhead head work is complete here. 9/7/06.		
<p>Erosion and Sediment Controls</p> <p><b>Composite</b></p>	<p>- Although controls upgradient of the 2<sup>nd</sup> wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road were repaired, additional run-off caused stone to pile over the fence again. 8/22- 9/7/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22- 9/7/06. Another area with deep wood chips off the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane. 3/15- 9/7/06.</p> <p>- The controls at structure #34 off Gallows Hill remain in good condition but the surrounding area is bare of vegetation. 9/7/06.</p>	<p>- Controls should be maintained as necessary and the stone has to be pulled back from the wetland. More permanent measures will be needed. 9/7/06.</p> <p>-Make sure chips stay on the ROW. Contractors should remove the off ROW chips since this is not allowed in the D&amp;M plan. 2/22-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out. 4/6- 9/7/06.</p> <p>- The area should be restored and vegetated 9/7/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>-Still needs attention (CL&amp;P is looking into a solution here)</p> <p>- Needs attention when feasible.</p>
<p><b>345kV H-Frame</b></p> <p>Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.</p>	<p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) were noted at a number of pole locations along the Bethel Res. Section. 9/7/06</p> <p>-The majority of the pile at structure#6 has been removed but soil remains encroaching on wetlands 4/12-9/7/06.</p> <p>-The area around structure #9 had re-vegetated, but a new area</p>	<p>-Continue restoration occurs in previously disturbed areas and that materials are not forgotten in place. 9/7/06</p> <p>- Remove the remaining soil in this area. 2/22- 9/7/06.</p> <p>-The exposed soil should be restored and vegetated. Although it does not appear that sediment is</p>	<p>- Restoration efforts are noted</p> <p>- Needs attention when feasible</p> <p>-Needs attention when feasible.</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way	<p>of disturbance remains upgradient of the pole 8/30-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Ruts and disturbance remain in the wetland between poles #10-11. although vegetation is increasing. 9/7/06.</p> <p>- The majority of the area near structures #24-25 remains bare of vegetation. A portion of the disturbed area at #24, closest to the silt fence, has revegetated. 8/30-9/7/06.</p> <p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion has returned, despite the haybales. 7/19-9/7/06. Reese is storing equipment near structure #31. 9/7/06.</p>	<p>entering the road from this area, silt fence may be necessary. 8/30-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Haybales should be placed across the ROW to prevent sedimentation and help discourage access. 5/17-9/7/06</p> <p>- Revegetate these areas ASAP to reduce run-off. 8/9-9/7/06.</p>	<p>- Needs attention (even though the majority of the damage is not project related.)</p> <p>-Silt fence was repaired.</p>
<b>Norwalk Section</b>			
Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.	<p>- The ROW off Perry Ave has been re-graded but has not been seeded. 9/7/06.</p> <p>- The area near pole #11080 at the substation remains fairly bare of vegetation 8/17-9/7/06.</p>	<p>- Keep all stone/sediment from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-9/7/06.</p> <p>-This area should be restored/seeded as soon as possible since it washes out regularly. 7/19-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Restore the adjacent area with vegetation to reduce potential run-off, even if it is temporarily. 6/7-9/7/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to evaluate.</p> <p>-N/A</p> <p>-NA</p>
Kent Rd. (North – new ROW section)	<p>- The stone access pad north of Kent Rd may still need some cleanup; there was minor sediment tracking in the road. 8/17-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence remains along both banks of the stream and near the foundation</p>	<p>- Continue to maintain and sweep the street when necessary. Improve pad if needed. 7/19-9/7/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. 9/7/06.</p>	<p>- Needs attention</p> <p>- N/A at this time</p>

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Kent Rd. (South)	<p>at the pond in the Kent Rd north section. 7/19-9/7/06.</p> <p>- The majority of the silt fence was in good condition along the Kent Rd south ROW. Silt fence at structure #11057 is deteriorating and should be monitored. 9/7/06.</p> <p>- Hay bales remain in place at wash out areas along the access road. 9/7/06. Some stone remains beyond the erosion controls. 8/17-9/7/06.</p>	<p>-Continue to repair and reinforce controls. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-9/7/06.</p> <p>-Continue to repair and reinforce controls. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-9/7/06.</p>	<p>-Haybales were placed at wash out areas.</p> <p>-Needs some attention</p>
<p>Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation <b>Composite</b></p> <p><b>345kV H-Frame</b></p> <p><b>Norwalk Section</b></p>	<p>-The D&amp;M plan approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings have worked fairly well. 4/6-9/7/06.</p> <p>- At structure #6, most of the mud was removed from the wetland and they will continue to do so. 4/6-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Non-project related vehicles had not returned to the wetland between #10-11 but damage remains. Vegetative growth has increased 8/17-9/7/06.</p> <p>-Pieces of wire have been left within the overflow channel at structure #11081. The wire will be removed when</p>	<p>- As the access is considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 1/26-9/7/06. This will be occurring in the near future. 8/30/06-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Continue to remove entire pile. 2/16-9/7/06.</p> <p>- Haybales should be added across the access road on both side of the wetland to reduce sedimentation. 5/25-9/7/06.</p> <p>-Remove wire ASAP due to its location within the overflow channel. 9/7/06.</p>	<p>-N/A until the end of work.</p> <p>- N/A</p> <p>-Needs attention (the majority of disturbance is from non project related vehicles)</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
<b>All Sections</b>	overhead head work is complete here. 9/7/06.  - Use caution in removing trees from wetland areas. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 3/29-9/7/06.	- Retain shrubs and low growth as much as possible, especially at stream buffers. 3/2-9/7/06.	- N/A
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-9/7/06.  -An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure #7 in the Chestnut Ridge Rd section on 6/14/06.	- Now that weather is warmer, daily walkthroughs should be occurring prior to any work in the area. 4/6-9/7/06.  - Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-9/7/06.	-N/A at this time  -N/A
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)  <b>Composite</b>	- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other shrubs. 3/2-9/7/06.  - A significant amount of chips were blown off the ROW into the upland and also along the wetland edge at the 3 <sup>rd</sup> structure off Gallows Hill. These areas are off property. 2/22-9/7/06. -This was also noted several structures past Archers Lane. 3/15-9/7/06.	-Replace shrubs where approved during these restoration efforts. 9/7/06.  - Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-8/30/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-9/7/06.	-Needs attention when feasible  - Still needs attention CL&P is looking into this.
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	- Widespread restoration efforts were noted as work areas are seeded and mulched with hay. 9/7/06	- None at this time 9/7/06.	-Restoration was noted.
Dewatering	- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection. 9/7/06.	- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource	-N/A at this time

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
		areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 3/9-9/7/06.	
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 9/7/06.	-None at this time. 9/7/06.	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 9/7/06.  - In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 9/7/06	- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.	-NA
Additional Observations			

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Wednesday September 13, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Diana Walden for David Stowe





**(Composite Section):** Photo on the left shows erosion continuing along the access road at the ROW past Archers Lane. Photo on the right shows a view of the ROW off Gallows Hill Road. Most disturbed areas have re-vegetated here. 9/7/06.



**(345kV H-Frame):** Both photos show areas where hay mulch and seed were applied along the ROW near Bethel Reservoir during the restoration efforts. Photo on the left shows the area around structure #21 and photo on the right shows structure #19. 9/7/06.





**Photo on the right shows the silt fence in good condition along the wetland at structure #25.  
Photo on the left shows silt fence in place along the wetland at structure #24. 9/7/06.**



**Photo on the left shows the area near structure #31 off Costa Lane where Reese is storing equipment. Photo on the right shows the silt fence in good condition at structure #27. This area has partially re-vegetated with inactivity. 9/7/06.**





**(Norwalk Section): Photo on the left shows a crew pulling wire at structure #11048. Photo on the right shows the silt fence in good condition at structure #11051. 9/7/06**



**Photo on the left shows silt fence in good condition around the pond off Kent Road (north). Photo on the right shows a crew doing wire work at structure #11059 off Kent Road (south). 9/7/06.**





**Photo on the left shows a view of wire placed within the overflow channel near the Norwalk Substation. This should be removed and stored properly if pieces are not being used. Photo on the right shows the area off Broad Street where vehicles have driven through the restored area adjacent to the bike path. 9/7/06.**



**Photo on the left shows a recently graded area in the ROW off Perry Ave. This area has not yet been seeded. Photo on the right shows a crew actively working on structure #11064 in the ROW off North Seir Hill Road. 9/7/06**